

UPDATED INFORMATIVE DIGEST

Current law imposes limits on the amount of income and personal and real property, including savings accounts, that an individual or family may possess in order to be eligible for aid under the CalWORKs program, but authorizes an eligible family to retain savings and interest thereon for specified purposes.

Existing law provides for the payment of an allowance for nonrecurring special needs after a family has used all available liquid resources, both exempt and nonexempt, in excess of \$100.

Senate Bill (SB) 1341 (Chapter 485, Statutes of 2008) expands the scope of purposes for which eligible savings may be used to include costs associated with securing permanent rental housing or to make rent payments to overcome an episode of homelessness. SB 1341 also exempts funds deposited into an individual's specified restricted account when determining eligibility for a special needs payment.

These proposed regulations amend specific provisions in the CDSS MPP that regulate personal property to be excluded while receiving benefits under the CalWORKs Program.

The Department anticipates that these proposed regulations will benefit CalWORKs Program participants by allowing them to use monies from restricted accounts in order to secure a place to live or make rent payments to overcome an episode of homelessness.

The Department finds that these proposed regulations are compatible and consistent with the intent of the Legislature in adopting SB 1341, as well as with existing state regulations.

These regulations were considered at the public hearing held on July 11, 2012 in Sacramento, California. No written or oral testimony was received during the 45-day comment period from May 25 to July 11, 2012.

CDSS did not renote these regulations because no changes requiring renote were made to the regulations following the public hearing.